



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/813,861	03/31/2004	Edward Vaquero	P03505	5583

23702 7590 11/28/2008
Bausch & Lomb Incorporated
One Bausch & Lomb Place
Rochester, NY 14604-2701

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, TUAN VAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3731

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

11/28/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/813,861	Applicant(s) VAQUERO, EDWARD	
	Examiner TUAN V. NGUYEN	Art Unit 3731	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 August 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 13-15 and 18-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 24 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13-15, 18-23 and 25-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

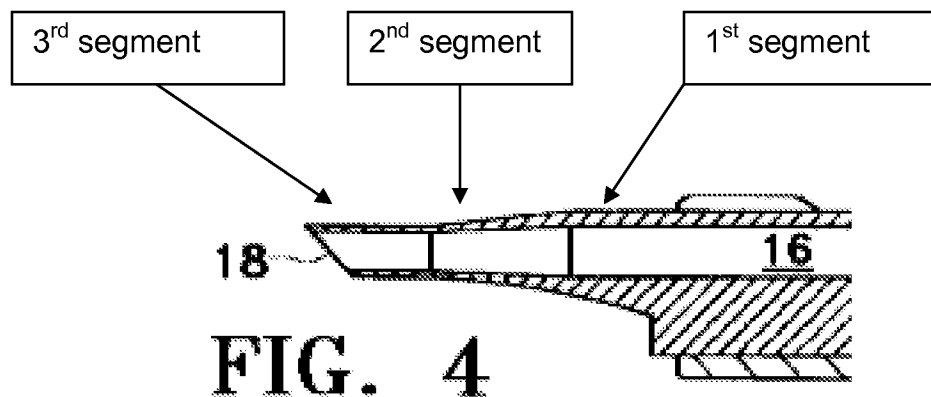
DETAILED ACTION

1. In previous Office action, claims 13-15 and 18-22 were pending and they were examined and rejected.

Response to Amendment

2. Claim 24 is withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on August 14, 2008.
3. According to the amendment filed on August 14, 2008, claims 25-30 are new. Accordingly, claims 13-15 and 18-30 are pending in this present application. Claims 13-15, 18-23 and 25-30 are presented for examination.
4. Applicants' arguments filed on August 14, 2008 with respect to the rejections of all claims under 35 USC § 103 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicants argue that none of Clark, Brown or Feingold discloses at least one slot extending from the open end through the second segment and the third segment, the third segment connected to the second segment at a transition point, the transition point characterized by a change in taper as recited in claim 13 is in correct. Brown et al disclose (Fig. 4, which is reproduced below this paragraph) and IOL injector comprising, among other things, a tip comprising a third segment having a constant diameter, a second segment having taper located on the outer surface and a taper located on the inner surface of bore 16.

Apparently, the advantage is for compressing the IOL to fit through a small tip for easy insertion of the injector into a small incision in the ocular tissue. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the cannula 28 of Clark according to the suggestion of Brown et al so that it too would have this advantage. With respect to the limitation of "at least one slot extending from the open end through the second segment and third segment". Noting that Clark et al disclose slots 121 disposed at the distal region of cannula 28 but fail to disclose the slot extending from the open end through the second and third segment. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to optimize the length of slots 121 to extend through the second segment of the modified device of Clark/Brown to ensure that the IOL gradually return to its original shape before it is released into the eye to avoid the complication of injury to the eye or tissue near the implanted site from the energy release by IOL while it is "spring" back from the deformation configuration.



Claim Objections

5. Claims 25 and 25 are being objected to for being duplicated. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

Art Unit: 3731

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
 2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
 3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
 4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.
8. **Claims 13-15, 18-23, and 25-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clark et al (U.S. 6491697) in view of Brown et al (U.S. 6010510).**
9. Regarding claims 13, 15, 18-23, 25, 28, 29 and 30, Clark discloses (Fig. 1) an injector body 22 having a first segment 103; a cannula 28, wherein the cannula includes a tip 105 or third segment, and wherein the tip having a constant diameter; two slots 121 disposed at the distal region of the tip, and slanted face 119 located at the distal end of the tip; a lumen 107, which extends through cannula 28, is axially aligned with passage 76 of compressing station 26 or loading bay; a compressor drawer 40 extending from the loading bay 26, wherein the drawer comprises a groove 70 (Fig. 6A-6C), which is aligned with the lumen grooves 68 and 76 (col. 3, lines 50-65; col. 4, lines 55-68; col. 5, lines 58-68; and col. 6, lines 30-50). Clark discloses the invention substantially as claimed except for the cannula 28 further comprises a second segment, wherein the second segment connected to the third segment at the transition point, the transition point characterized by a discrete change in taper. However, Brown et al disclose (Fig. 4) and IOL injector comprising, among other things, a tip comprising a third segment having a constant diameter, a second segment having taper located on the outer surface and a taper located on the inner surface of bore 16. Apparently, the

advantage is for compressing the IOL to fit through a small tip for easy insertion of the injector into a small incision in the ocular tissue. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the cannula 28 of Clark according to the suggestion of Brown et al so that it too would have this advantage. With respect to the limitation of "at least one slot extending from the open end through the second segment and third segment". Noting that Clark et al disclose slots 121 disposed at the distal region of cannula 28, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to optimize the length of slots 121 to extend through the second segment to ensure that the IOL gradually return to its original shape before it is released into the eye to avoid the complication of injury to the eye or tissue near the implanted site from the energy release by IOL while it is "spring" back from the deformation configuration.

10. Regarding claim 14, Clark et al fail to disclose the specific dimension. However, it is old and well known to make the size of an insertion segment of an IOL injector as claimed in order to obtain the advantage of permitting easy insertion of the injector into the eye. It would have been obvious to so size the Clark et al IOL injector so that it too would have this advantage. Extrinsic evidence, Feingold et al (US 6056757) discloses the size of the incision in the ocular tissue necessary to implant an intraocular lens within the capsule of the eye continues to decrease with the progress of intraocular lens deformation technology (col. 1, lines 62-68).
11. Regarding claims 25 and 26, Brown discloses the first segment is unslotted and the first segment has a different taper than the second segment.

12. **Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clark et al in view of Brown et al as applied to claim 13 above and further in view of Ott et al. (US 6,447,520).**
13. The modified device of Clark/Brown discloses the invention substantially as claimed except for the second segment has a constant outer diameter. However, Ott et al discloses (Figs. 3B and 4A) that the tip of an IOL injector includes a third segment, a second segment and a third segment, wherein the second segment has a constant outer diameter. It has been held that substitution of one known element for another to obtain predictable results is old and well known in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a second segment with a constant diameter.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

Art Unit: 3731

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TUAN V. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-5962. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Todd Manahan can be reached on 571-272-4713. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/T. V. N./
Examiner, Art Unit 3731

/Todd E Manahan/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3731